

## **ARLINGTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS**

*In accordance with the provisions of the Massachusetts General laws, Chapter 30A, Section 20, notice is hereby given for the following meeting of the:*

**Arlington School Committee  
School Committee Organizational Meeting  
Thursday, April 11, 2024  
6:15 PM**

**In Person:**  
*Arlington Public Schools District Office  
14 Mill Brook Drive  
School Committee Room - 2nd Floor  
Arlington, MA 02476*

**Via Zoom:**

*Conducted by Remote Participation <https://www.mass.gov/doc/order-suspending-certain-provision-of-open-meeting-law/download> via Zoom link below:*

*<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86956181807>*

**Or viewed on your local ACMi channel.**

*Call to Order - Mr. Paul Schlichtman, Chairperson Pro Tempore*

*BEDL - Land Acknowledgement (P. Schlichtman)*

*On April 26, 2021, under Article 85, Arlington Town Meeting voted (222-1-2) to encourage all town entities to celebrate and recognize the heritage of the peoples indigenous to Massachusetts and Arlington by including a land acknowledgement at the beginning of the Town's public meetings.*

*The Arlington School Committee shall include at the beginning of its organizational meeting, at the beginning of its first regular meeting in October (or such other meeting date as is approximate to "Indigenous Peoples Day" per Title I, Article 6 of the Town Bylaws), and as part of graduation ceremonies, a land acknowledgement shall be read in a substantially similar form to the following:*

*"We acknowledge that the Town of Arlington is located on the ancestral lands of the Massachusett Tribe, the tribe of Indigenous peoples from whom the Colony, Province, and Commonwealth have taken their names. We pay our respects to the ancestral bloodline of the Massachusett Tribe and their descendants who still inhabit historic Massachusett territories today."*

*In addition, the Arlington School Committee encourages the reading of this land acknowledgement at other significant meetings and events.*

*Cross References:*

*BDA - School Committee Organizational Meeting*

*BEA - Regular School Committee Meetings*

*BEDB - Agenda Format/Preparation*

*Arlington Town Bylaws: Title I, Article 6*

*Arlington Public Schools  
Adopted and Approved: 1-13-22*

*Nomination and Election for Office of Chair*

*Nomination and Election for Office of Vice Chair*

*Nomination and Election of Office Secretary*

*Vote to Approve Committee & Liaison Assignments - 2024-2025*

*-School Committee Subcommittees and Liaisons 2024-2025*

*Vote on Authorization of Chair (and alternative) to Sign Payroll Warrant*

*Per Policy BDA-E: Standards and Norms of the Arlington School Committee (NEW CHAIR TO READ)*

*-Policy BDA-E: Standards and Norms of the Arlington School Committee*

*New Business*

*Adjournment*

*The listings of matters are those reasonably anticipated by the Chair, which may be discussed at the meeting. Not all items listed may in fact be discussed and other items not listed may also be brought up for discussion to the extent permitted by law.*

*Stated times and time amounts, listed in parenthesis, are the estimated amount of time for that particular agenda item. Actual times may be shorter or longer depending on the time needed to fully explore the topic.*

Massachusetts law requires all open session meetings of public bodies to be accessible to members of the public, including those with disabilities. If you need reasonable accommodations in order to participate in the meeting, contact the Administrative Assistant to the Arlington School Committee Liz Diggins at [ediggins@arlington.k12.ma.us](mailto:ediggins@arlington.k12.ma.us).



## Town of Arlington, Massachusetts

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### **Meeting Location - Hybrid**

#### **Summary:**

#### **In Person:**

Arlington Public Schools District Office  
14 Mill Brook Drive  
School Committee Room - 2nd Floor  
Arlington, MA 02476

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**Town of Arlington, Massachusetts**

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**Call to Order - Mr. Paul Schlichtman, Chairperson Pro Tempore**



## Town of Arlington, Massachusetts

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### BEDL - Land Acknowledgement (P. Schlichtman)

#### **Summary:**

On April 26, 2021, under Article 85, Arlington Town Meeting voted (222-1-2) to encourage all town entities to celebrate and recognize the heritage of the peoples indigenous to Massachusetts and Arlington by including a land acknowledgement at the beginning of the Town's public meetings.

The Arlington School Committee shall include at the beginning of its organizational meeting, at the beginning of its first regular meeting in October (or such other meeting date as is approximate to "Indigenous Peoples Day" per Title I, Article 6 of the Town Bylaws), and as part of graduation ceremonies, a land acknowledgement shall be read in a substantially similar form to the following:

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#### Cross References:

BDA - School Committee Organizational Meeting

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Arlington Town Bylaws: Title I, Article 6

Arlington Public Schools

Adopted and Approved: 1-13-22

#### **ATTACHMENTS:**

Type	File Name	Description
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Policy	Policy_BEDL_- _Land_Acknowledgement.pdf	Policy BEDL - Land Acknowledgement

## **File: BEDL - LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT**

On April 26, 2021, under Article 85, Arlington Town Meeting voted (222-1-2) to encourage all town entities to celebrate and recognize the heritage of the peoples indigenous to Massachusetts and Arlington by including a land acknowledgement at the beginning of the Town's public meetings.

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Arlington Town Bylaws: Title I, Article 6

Arlington Public Schools

Adopted and Approved: 1-13-22



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**Town of Arlington, Massachusetts**

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**Nomination and Election for Office of Chair**



## Town of Arlington, Massachusetts

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**Nomination and Election for Office of Vice Chair**



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**Town of Arlington, Massachusetts**

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**Nomination and Election of Office Secretary**



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## Town of Arlington, Massachusetts

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### **Vote to Approve Committee & Liaison Assignments - 2024-2025**

#### **Summary:**

-School Committee Subcommittees and Liaisons 2024-2025



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**Town of Arlington, Massachusetts**

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**Vote on Authorization of Chair (and alternative) to Sign Payroll Warrant**



## Town of Arlington, Massachusetts

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### **Per Policy BDA-E: Standards and Norms of the Arlington School Committee (NEW CHAIR TO READ)**

#### **Summary:**

-Policy BDA-E: Standards and Norms of the Arlington School Committee

#### **ATTACHMENTS:**

Type	File Name	Description
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Policy	Policy_BDA-E.pdf	Policy BDA-E

## **File: BDA-E - SCHOOL COMMITTEE NORMS AND STANDARDS**

We, the Arlington School Committee, acknowledge that a School Committee meeting is a meeting of School Committee members that is held in public and not a public meeting and that we will make every effort to ensure that meetings are effective and efficient To that end, we acknowledge the importance of subcommittees and we and the Superintendent agree to utilize them to focus on specific topics in-depth and to prepare for presentation, deliberation, and possible action by the School Committee.

We, the Arlington School Committee, set forth these Standards and Norms that we will all commit to abide by as individuals and as a Committee:

1. Represent the needs and interests of all students in the district.
2. Exercise leadership in vision, planning, policy making, evaluation, and advocacy on behalf of the students and district, not in managing the day-to-day operations of the district.
3. Conduct our business through a set agenda. Emerging items will be addressed in subsequent meetings through agenda items.
4. Provide full disclosure. Each member will provide input, encouragement, express concerns and positions rather than withhold information from other members. When a Committee member feels that there has not been full disclosure, an objective process for revisiting the issue will be used.
5. Maintain an open environment where each member is empowered to freely express opinions, concerns, and ideas. Committee members will work together to clarify and restate discussions in order to strive for full understanding.
6. Keep an open mind and accept that they can change their opinions by recognizing that they are not locked into their initial stated positions.
7. Make decisions on information and not on personalities. Committee members will act with the best information available at the time considering data, the superintendent's recommendations, proposals, and suggestions. Committee members will strive to make the best decision at the time.
8. Debate the issues, not one another. The Committee will engage in critical thinking, expecting all Committee members to freely offer differing points of view as part of the discussion, prior to making a board decision.
9. Not take unilateral action. A Committee member's authority is derived only through a majority decision of the Committee acting as a whole during an open, public meeting.
10. Attend meetings well prepared to discuss issues on the agenda and will be prepared to make decisions, striving for efficient decision making.
11. Strive to have no surprises for the committee or superintendent. All members will receive the same information on all topics in a timely manner.
12. Strive to reach decisions by consensus. Discuss with respect, disagree without acrimony. When consensus is not possible, all members will publicly abide by the majority decision.
13. Understand and respect the chain of command as it concerns roles and responsibilities and direct others to do the same.
14. Review and revise our standards and norms, as needed, as part of the committee's self-evaluation.



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**Town of Arlington, Massachusetts**

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**New Business**



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**Town of Arlington, Massachusetts**

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**Adjournment**